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THE GENUS *CHIONANTHOBIUS* PIERCE (COLEOPTERA: CURCULIONIDAE): A NEW SPECIES FROM CUBA AND A KEY TO SPECIES

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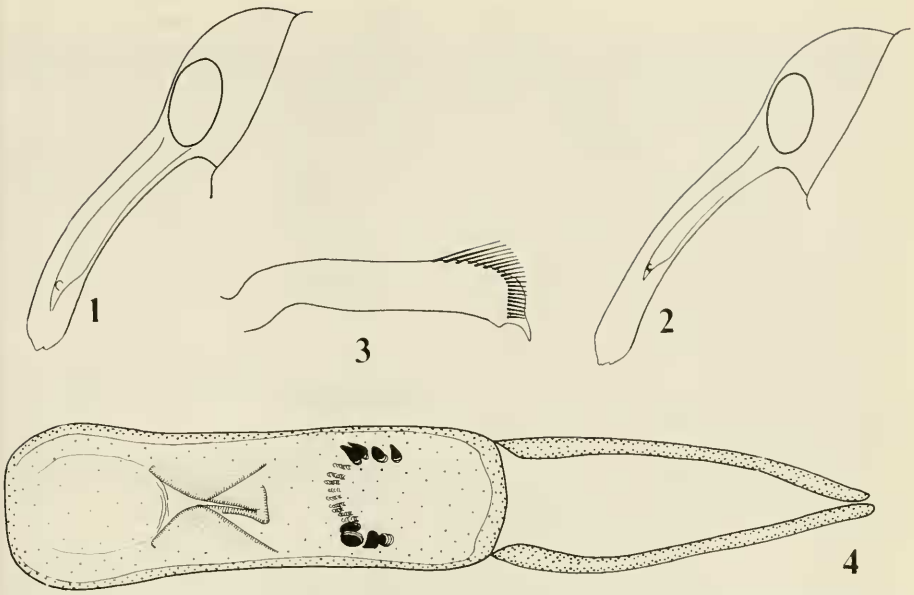
Abstract.—A new species of Lignyodini (Curculionidae: Tychiinae), *Chionanthobius* **darlingtoni,** from Cuba is described and illustrated. The new species closely resembles *C. autumnalis* Clark from Texas. It is the third species of *Chionanthobius* and the first from outside the United States. A key is provided for the identification of all three species.

The genus *Chionanthobius* was erected by Pierce (1912) for a species now known from the states of Maryland, Georgia, and Florida, *C. schwarzi* Pierce. Clark and Anderson (1981) redefined *Chionanthobius* to accomodate a second species, *C. autumnalis* Clark from Texas. More recently, specimens of a third, previously undescribed species of *Chionanthobius* have become available. The purpose of this paper is to name and describe this species. The species is of special interest because it is from Cuba, making it the first known member of the genus from outside the United States. It is represented by four specimens found among unsorted curculionids at the Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts (MCZ) by Charles W. O'Brien. Thanks are extended to C. W. O'Brien and to Margaret Thayer of the MCZ for making them available for study.

Chionanthobius darlingtoni Clark, NEW SPECIES
Figs. 1–4

Type material.—*Holotype:* ♂, labeled "CUBA: Havana/X-13-1926 P. J./ Darlington, Jr." (MCZ). *Allotype:* ♀, with same label data as for holotype (MCZ). *Paratypes:* With same label data as for holotype (1 ♂, MCZ); "Havana/X-13-26 Cuba/Darlington" (1 ♂, MCZ).

Male holotype.—*Length:* 3.94 mm. *Width:* 1.86 mm. *Head:* Eyes separated by distance ca. 0.11× eye width. *Rostrum* (Fig. 1): Slender; in profile, dorsal margin slightly, nearly evenly curved from base to apex; in dorsal



Figs. 1–4. *Chionanthobius darlingtoni*. 1, Head and rostrum, male. 2, Head and rostrum, female. 3, Left metatibia, male. 4, Male genitalia, dorsal view.

view, tapered slightly from base to antennal insertions, slightly widened at insertions, distal portion slightly constricted medially; lateral and dorsolateral sulci well-defined proximally, represented by rows of increasingly shallow punctures distally; with small, aeneus scales proximally and in scrobe, minute setae proximad of antennal insertions. *Prothorax:* Strongly constricted subapically; dorsum with dense vestiture of intermixed pallid, whitish scales, and slightly broader, pallid fulvous, recumbent scales; pleuron with long, dense, imbricated, whitish scales below, with transverse vitta of fulvous scales medially, and with scales like those on dorsum above. *Elytra:* In dorsal view, humeri prominent, sides convergent from humeri to apices, posterior tubercles prominent; odd interspaces slightly raised; scales on interspaces uniformly recumbent; pallid whitish scales, fulvous scales, and fuscous scales present, darker scales present in small subbasal patches on interspaces 2–5, in broad, diffuse, zigzag-shaped posteromedian transverse band and a similar, broader, more distinct subapical band. *Legs:* Femora stout, unarmed, with vestiture of narrow, intermixed pallid whitish and fulvous, acuminate, recumbent scales; metatibia (Fig. 3) with long, curved, acute apical uncus, and small praemucro. *Genitalia* (Fig. 4): Median lobe expanded apically; endophallus with short rows of laminate spines connected by transverse row of smaller spines.

Female allotype.—*Length:* 3.56 mm. *Width:* 1.87 mm. Otherwise as described for male, except rostrum (Fig. 2) longer, more slender, less deeply sulcate and punctate, with more sparse vestiture, and smaller tibial unci.

Discussion.—*Chionanthobius darlingtoni* is known only from the type-series from Cuba. It resembles *C. autumnalis* of Texas more closely than it does the type-species of *Chionanthobius*, *C. schwarzi*. It is distinguished from *C. autumnalis* in having the rostral sulci deeper, the dorsal and ventral margins of the scrobe carinate, and in having the vestiture of the pronotum and the elytra much more pallid, with dark scales absent from the prothorax, and mostly limited to the diffuse posteromedian and subapical transverse bands on the elytra. The male genitalia (Fig. 4) differ from those of *C. autumnalis* by the distinctly enlarged apical portion of the median lobe but have similar endophallic armature. The female genitalia of the two species do not appear to differ significantly.

The only intraspecific variation noted among the specimens in the type-series is in the development and extent of the elytral bands of dark scales which are more distinct in some than in others.

The host of *C. darlingtoni* is unknown. Known host plants of species of *Chionanthobius* are all members of the family Oleaceae: *Chionanthobius virginica* L. and *Osmanthus americanus* (L.) Benth. and Hook. f. ex Gray are hosts of *C. schwarzi*, and *Forestiera ligustrina* (Michx.) Poir. is host of *C. autumnalis* (Clark and Anderson, 1981). Plants in the genera *Chionanthus* and *Osmanthus* occur in North America and in the Far East, whereas the genus *Forestiera* has species in North, Central, and South America and in the West Indies (Elias, 1980). It seems likely that the Cuban *C. darlingtoni* will be found to have a *Forestiera* host because of its relationship to *C. autumnalis* and its geographic range. The new *Chionanthobius* is named in honor of its collector, P. J. Darlington of Harvard, noted Coleopterist, Zoogeographer, and Evolutionist.

Key to species of *Chionanthobius*

1. Femora toothed; strial scales not or very slightly broader than scales on interspaces, their color matching that of scales on adjacent interspaces; pronotum with fulvoferruginous scales only ..... *schwarzi* Pierce
– Femora unarmed; strial scales distinctly broader than scales on interspaces, fulvous, contrasting with white or fuscous scales on adjacent interspaces; pronotum with pallid whitish scales only, or with darker scales limited to lateromedian vittae 2
2. Dorsal and ventral scrobal margins ecarinate; pronotum with lateromedian vittae of fulvous to fulvoferruginous scales ... *autumnalis* Clark
– Dorsal and ventral scrobal margins carinate; pronotum with pallid whitish scales only ..... *darlingtoni*, new species

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